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JC09 Rec'd PCT/PTO 22 SEP 2005

Express Mail Label No.

Dated: \_\_\_\_\_

Docket No.: 09450/0203332-US0  
(PATENT)

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Patent Application of:  
Keiichiro Suzuki et al.

Application No.: Not Yet Assigned

Confirmation No.: N/A

Filed: Concurrently Herewith

Art Unit: N/A

For: BALL JOINT

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (IDS)**

MS PCT  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to 37 CFR 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the references listed on the attached PTO/SB/08. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the references be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

This Information Disclosure Statement accompanies the new patent application submitted herewith.

Applicant submits herewith copies of foreign and non-patents in accordance with 37 CFR 1.98(a)(2).

Citations BA and BB are not in the English language. In accordance with 1.98(c), Applicants state:

Application No.: Not Yet Assigned

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The requirement for concise explanation of relevance of Citations BA and BB is satisfied by the attached English language copy of a Search Report from a foreign patent office, issued in a counterpart application.

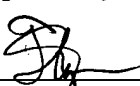
In accordance with 37 CFR 1.97(g), the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed to mean that a search has been made or that no other material information as defined in 37 CFR 1.56(a) exists. In accordance with 37 CFR 1.97(h), the filing of this Information Disclosure statement shall not be construed to be an admission that any patent, publication or other information referred to therein is "prior art" for this invention unless specifically designated as such.

It is submitted that the Information Disclosure Statement is in compliance with 37 CFR 1.98 and the Examiner is respectfully requested to consider the listed references.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge any deficiency of up to \$300.00 or credit any excess in this fee to Deposit Account No. 04-0100.

Dated: September 22, 2005

Respectfully submitted,

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PTO/SB/08a/b (08-03)

Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0031

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|---|---|----|---|--------------------------|-----------------------|
| Substitute for form 1449A/B/PTO<br><br><b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE<br/>STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b><br><br><i>(Use as many sheets as necessary)</i> |   |    |   | <b>Complete if Known</b> |                       |
|   |   |    |   | Application Number       | Not Yet Assigned      |
|   |   |    |   | Filing Date              | Concurrently Herewith |
|   |   |    |   | First Named Inventor     | Keiichiro Suzuki      |
|   |   |    |   | Art Unit                 | N/A                   |
|   |   |    |   | Examiner Name            | Not Yet Assigned      |
| Sheet   | 1 | of | 1 | Attorney Docket Number   | 09450/0203332-USO     |

| U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS |                          |   |                                |  |   |
|-----------------------|--------------------------|---|--------------------------------|--|---|
| Examiner<br>Initials* | Cite<br>No. <sup>1</sup> | Document Number<br>Number-Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known) | Publication Date<br>MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or<br>Applicant of Cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines, Where<br>Relevant Passages or Relevant<br>Figures Appear |
|                       |                          |   |                                |  |   |

| FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS |                          |   |  |                                   |  |   |                |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|---|--|-----------------------------------|--|---|----------------|
| Examiner<br>Initials*    | Cite<br>No. <sup>1</sup> | Foreign Patent Document   |  | Publication<br>Date<br>MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or<br>Applicant of Cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines,<br>Where Relevant Passages<br>or Relevant Figures Appear | T <sup>6</sup> |
|                          |                          | Country Code <sup>3</sup> -Number <sup>4</sup> -Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known) |  |                                   |  |   |                |
|                          | BA                       | JP-5-45340-U  |  | 06-18-1993                        | NOK Corp.  |   |                |
|                          | BB                       | JP-10-205524-A  |  | 08-04-1998                        | NOK Corp.  |   | √              |

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. <sup>1</sup> Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup> See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) or MPEP 901.04. <sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup> Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. <sup>6</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

| NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS |                          |   |                |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------|---|----------------|
| Examiner<br>Initials*           | Cite<br>No. <sup>1</sup> | Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published. | T <sup>2</sup> |
|                                 | CA                       | Patent Abstracts of Japan for JP10-205524 published August 4, 1998.   |                |
|                                 | CB                       | International Search Report for PCT/JP2003/011355 mailed December 16, 2003.   |                |

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<sup>1</sup>Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup>Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

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| W:\094<br>5010203 |  | Date<br>Considered |  |
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